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OLDEST NEGRO JOURNAL
 IN KANSAS CITY.

TWICE ALL THE REST.

The paid circulation of THE RISING SON is more than double the combined circulation of all the other Kansas City Colored weekly newspapers.

TO PAUL LAWRENCE DUNBAR.

O thou who soars in intellectual skies
 Around thy zenith, who has nobly built
 Eternal fame, for ages yet to come,
 Whose greatness the deep ocean, long has crossed
 There to old England's court has made
 its way
 Live for great honors that may yet out
 shine
 The brightest star that lights the firmament.
 Let waves of criticism round thee roll
 They rise and fall like those upon the sea.
 They'll ever fail to reach the vaulted sky.
 But hug the earth and for existence strive
 And lie, unnoticed by the busy world.
 —AZALIA E. MARTIN.

THE INVASION AGAINST JIM CROWISM.

Tuesday of last week a number of our representative leaders from Kansas City and St. Louis met in Jefferson City to protest against the enactment of Crisp's Jim Crow law, and to present arguments why such a law would be an infringement upon the rights and privileges of a portion of Missouri's citizenship, whose only offense is that they have black faces and were once held as slaves. The promoters of this infamous law did have conscience enough left them to concede to the Negro right of protest, feeling as they did that they were endeavoring to strike a telling blow against the personal rights and liberties of one class of citizens which the letter of the constitution of the state constitution guarantees to them.

On Tuesday evening Dr. Roberts, chairman; Hon. J. Milton Turner, Hon. Walter M. Farmer; Geo. B. Vashon, of St. Louis; and Dr. Scott; Nelson C. Crews, esp., and several other Kansas Cityans, appeared before the joint assembly and made eloquent and forcible speeches against the iniquitous and infamous step which is being pressed by Crisp and his cohorts. And that the Negro's side of the question was ably and befittingly presented by these gentlemen is substantiated by even the rankest defender of Jim Crowism. Even the white press gives the representatives of our race credit for having clearly and pointedly given good reasons for the non-enactment of this perfidious and treacherous law against a weak and defenseless race. Perfidious, because it does not represent the sentiment of the honorable white citizenship of Missouri. Treacherous, because it seeks to destroy the manhood and to curtail and degrade the constitutional and God-given rights and privileges of a struggling and in-offensive race and people.

But it might makes right in the eyes of the Missouri legislature and the Jim Crow law is put in force we have the satisfaction of knowing that it was done, not because the Negroes of the state had given any just reason for its enactment by "offensive conduct or behavior," but because of the unjust, inhuman and virulent hatred and animosity for a much oppressed race.

THE ATTITUDE OF EX-GOV. LON V. STEPHENS.

In the face of the present agitation and discussion of the Negro nationally, and the acute pressure which is being brought to bear to popularize and create sentiment in favor of separate cars, libraries, etc., for our race in this state, it requires a great deal of courage for a white Democrat to take a stand in favor of the race and against the high-handed imposition of those of his fellow partisans to further humble and degrade our people. But we are glad to note the fact that there are among Democrats men who are willing to

concede that the Negro is entitled to some of the civil rights which his citizenship entitles him, and go on record as being desirous that these shall be fully secured by the lawmakers of this country. We are proud of such friends, and take pride in acquainting our readers of their noble qualities, high character and manly principle.

We feel that from the utterances made by ex-Gov. Lon V. Stephens to a representative of the Rising Son justifies us in the statement he is one having all the characteristics stated above, and is therefore our friend so far as being desirous of seeing that fairness and justice is meted out. To our representative the ex-governor stated that he was decidedly opposed to the Jim Crow law; that such a law would impede progress, and would ultimately bring about a reaction which would disgust and annoy the white people, for whom it was intended to benefit. The governor said that he thought the whites should try to help and improve the condition of the Negro race instead of trying to make it worse by obnoxious legislation. Mrs. Stephens also expressed her views in emphatic terms. We are truly grateful for the friendly assertions of Mr. Stephens, and believe him to be sincere in all he says. If we had at this time sponsors in the legislative assembly a few men of Gov. Stephens convictions the Jim Crow car measure would go to defeat as it deserves.

A COMMENDABLE MOVEMENT.

The opening of a Y. M. C. A. room at 912 E. Twelfth street is indeed a gratifying step. It ought to have a significant influence upon the young men of this city, and be the means of producing a good effect upon the moral standard of many of our young men who are not wholly bad. Out of the hundreds of young men of this community a very small percentage seemingly have higher ideals than the dance hall and club house, and spend their leisure hours in folly and wickedness. Since, heretofore, no place for the moral and religious development of our young men has been provided this establishment of Y. M. C. A. rooms, where lectures, wholesome reading matter, gymnasium, and the better teachings of right living are in vogue, will come as a boon to the well-disposed young men of our city. This worthy movement should have the unqualified support of parents, churches and societies.

PROTECTION FROM "SNITCHES."

A Bill introduced by a St. Louis Man in the Missouri Legislature.
 Jefferson City, Jan. 28.—The bill introduced by Senator Kincaid of St. Louis providing that persons having claims for damages against cities must give notice of their suits within sixty days after the time of the alleged injury, caused much debate in the senate this afternoon. By a vote of 20 to 12 it was finally laid over. Senator Clarke of Jackson spoke for the bill. He said he believed cities like Kansas City should have protection from "snitches."

And we favor some means of disposing of the cheap snitches and 2x4 pettifogging lawyers that this community is cursed with.

While it is a recognized fact that agitation has been the most useful weapon for bringing about reforms yet it is a dangerous and delicate one to handle in as much as at times it may do more injury to the cause for which contention is made than good. Prejudice is an uncertain and baffling quantity with which to deal and there are times when ignoring its presence may accomplish far more than combating it. In view of this fact it is to be doubted whether the protest of a committee of Negroes before the committee on railroad of the Missouri legislature against the Jim Crow bill will ultimately be productive of good or harm.

There is every prospect that Western University, located at Quindaro, Kas., will be generously treated by the Kansas legislature in the way of appropriations. The president, Prof. W. T. Vernon, has modestly asked for about \$27,000, of which \$17,000 will be used to maintain the school for the next two years, and the balance, \$10,000 to be spent in additional buildings, improvements and new departments. The growth and development of this worthy institution has been most gratifying to its promoters, and under the lead of the courageous and aggressive leader, Wm. Tecumseh Vernon, who knows no failure, and acknowledges no defeat, its future is assured, and its benefits to our race is incalculable.

President Allen of Lincoln Institute hopes to induce the legislature to augment its former appropriations several hundred dollars, in order that he may make many useful improvements and additions to the present facilities. We have no reason to doubt that the committee on appropriations will favorably recommend money enough to carry out Prof. Allen's plans.

It is to be deplored that at this time the people of the North and South should be thrown into a discussion of the Negro question; for the more intense the agitation the greater the harm done to the black man in the South.

There is a God that presides over the destiny of races as well as nations and what so ever He determines will come to pass in spite of the efforts of a few individuals who attempt to thwart or misdirect His will.

The next commercial scheme is an investment company.

And still the Son grows on.

A COMMUNICATION.

"We have turned our new leaf and begun on the first page; as we live this year we propose by the help of God and the good-thinking Negro, encouraged by the best people of this community to work and labor until we are rewarded with a purer society, a more earnest pulpit, a galaxy of teachers who are not politicians, but earnest trainers of our youth."

Mr. Editor:

Your editorial in the Rising Son of January 23 has so aroused me to a sense of duty that I cannot refrain from thanking you for your timely article. I can but ask the question, Whether are we drifting? What will the next generation be? What can we expect when we consider the kind of teachers that is instructing our children. From one end of this land of ours to the other goes up the cry for moral teaching. The force of example is so great. What danger are we courting when we put the training of our little children to the keeping of teachers who live day by day in open violation of the laws of decency.

Not long since a body of public spirited citizens called upon a representative of the school board and entered a protest. When asked whether they had children in the schools, they said no, but they came in the interest of the welfare of the colored citizens. The reply was, "Well so long as the parents don't complain, it is not to the interest of the board to take any action. The colored people of this city don't care what kind of teachers instruct their children. There will be immoral teachers employed just so long as the parents are satisfied.

Do your duty, Mr. Editor.

A PARENT.
 The only assured success is a characterized club for the elevation of society; and incidentally have a good time.

We expect this paper to be read. Locals, editorials and even the advertisements are instructive.

SURELY WORTHY FIRST PLACE.

New York Tribune Man Discovers the Champion Grouch.

Some men are affable and want to talk with every one they meet, while other men are not, and want to be left alone in their shells. Extremes, met on a Sixth avenue elevated train the other day—one of the dark, rainy days. A grim, grouchy individual sat in a corner seat reading a paper. At Forty-second street a trim little man got on and took the seat next to the sour one. After settling himself comfortably he remarked: "This is very nasty weather, isn't it?" The surly one looked up from his paper, glared at him a moment, and then replied: "Is that any of your darned business?" —New York Tribune.

Pie Filled with Live Birds.

The new governor of British Guiana, Sir James Swettenham, is a man of original ideas, says a Kingston correspondent in the Nashville Banner. He gave a ball the other day, and at supper an enormous pie was placed in front of him. When he cut the crust four and twenty little birds hopped out and flew about the room. Their feathers had been painted in brilliant colors. At first it was thought that the idea was to illustrate a well-known nursery rhyme, but it appears that this sort of bird pie is a popular custom in the Malay states, where Sir James comes from. The birds are caught and passed around among the guests, fortune being supposed to smile upon all who handle them.

Four Thousand Godfathers.

Princess Irene of Prussia is better provided for in the matter of godfathers than any other woman in the world. She can boast of no fewer than 4,000 godfathers, and how she came to obtain so many is a pretty story. When she was born the war of 1866 was drawing to an end, and peace being concluded just at the time of her christening, her father, Prince Henry of Hess, requested all the officers and men of the regiment under his command to stand godfathers to his little daughter, whom he named Irene (Peace) in commemoration of the end of the war.

Scylla on Charybdis.

Cheerful English writer informs us that vegetable food makes the blood vessels hard and stony, deposits tartar on the teeth and make them fall out, increases the fat of the body and tends to cause fatty degeneration of the heart, liver and brain, while meat gives gout, rheumatism, trichinosis, tapeworm, erysipelas, consumption and cancer. Cheerful English writer will please further inform us what particular brand of embalmed breakfast food he is booming—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Decorated Americans Have Company.

Seems to be no end of the list of titles in Germany. Grand Duke of Hess has just conferred the hereditary title of court marshal on the mason who reconstructed the ducal bathroom, while the Prince Regent of Bavaria has a royal sewer-maker and a court motorist. The imperial white wingist and the grand ducal boozologist are probably on the way. These things greatly enhance the value of Col. Partridge's decoration.—New York Telegram.

Wheat Grown in Alaska.

That wheat was grown in Alaska a century ago is proved by the discovery of two old flour mills, built by the subjects of the Czar, in the southern part of the territory.

TAKING DOLLS TO CHURCH.

Bold Innovation Proposed by an English Minister.

Rev. R. H. Armstrong, president of an English Unitarian association, at a recent conference said that he had adopted the plan of preaching a special sermon to children once in every five or six weeks, but that even this was not sufficient inducement to keep the little tots quiet in church. He was anxious to institute a reform by a novel appeal to the mothers. He requested each mother to bring her little girls to church with a doll, which should be the "church doll" and which the child should keep perfectly still during the whole service. It is rather discouraging to hear that not one English mother carried his good advice into effect, perhaps because none was strong minded enough to begin. But it certainly would have a quieting effect on a good many children one sees in church on a sunny Sunday morning, when the restless legs and busy brains want to go out and play very much more than they want to sit quietly by mother in church.

CHASED DEER ON BICYCLE.

Animal Seemingly Enjoyed His Race With the Machine.

C. D. Storms of Jonesdale, Pa., was making a bicycle trip on the towpath of the abandoned Delaware & Hudson canal the other day. When he was between Glen Eyre and Rowland, in Pike county, says the New York Sun, a big buck sprang out of a thicket and into the canal just ahead of him.

The deer paused a moment and took a wondering look at the man on the wheel, and then went bounding along the dry bed of the big ditch. Storms put on all speed, but the buck led him a chase of more than a mile, keeping well ahead of him.

Coming to a lock in the canal the buck leaped out of the canal at one bound, cleared the towpath at another, took to the Lackawaxen river, crossed to the other side, bounded across the track of the Erie railroad's Honesdale branch, a few yards ahead of an east-bound coal train, and disappeared into the woods.

"Dick" Wainwright.

Three jackies came to town to "blow." One, an old sea lawyer, had \$26 wadded in his hip pocket. A new found friend, solicitous for his welfare, wanted him to fold the notes reasonably. "Say, my boy, the notes don't, I'm too old a hand. We don't want to keep this money. We've come to town to blow and we're going to blow; and the sooner we blow the better." "What's your ship?" "The Newark." "Who's the captain?" "Dick Wainwright." "Dick Wainwright of the Gloucester?" "The same." "What sort of a chap is he?" "What do the crew think of him?" "Oh, Dick's all right. He's a bully fellow, only stricter'n —" —New York Press.

Investment of French Capital.

A few months ago the minister of foreign affairs of France sent a letter to French consuls in the different quarters of the world, instructing them to report on the amount of money invested by Frenchmen in their various consular districts. France has always had the reputation of being an investing country, a dividend receiving country, a nation of almost inexhaustible resources. The result of the consular investigations fully sustains this reputation, showing that the foreign investments of France aggregate in round numbers nearly \$6,000,000,000.

Rival Speakers.

While Mr. Webster was once addressing the Senate on the subject of internal improvements, and every Senator was listening with close attention, the Senate clock commenced striking, but instead of striking twice and indicating the hour, it continued to strike without cessation more than forty times. All eyes turned to the clock, and Mr. Webster remained silent until the clock struck about twenty, when he thus appealed to the chair: "Mr. President, the clock is out of order. I have the floor."

The Czar's Bodyguard.

The Czar's bodyguard consists of fifteen Circassians noted for their keenness and courage. They accompany the Emperor everywhere, sometimes in disguise, sometimes in uniform, and on occasions as private gentlemen of the court. They keep a special watch on the kitchen, and examine everything that is cooked before it is placed on the imperial table. The wine is tasted several times a day by three persons, for fear that it should be drugged.

CAT LIVES IN ICE HOUSE.

And Seems to Enjoy Low Temperature of the Place.

In one of Philadelphia's big cold storage warehouses, says the Record of that city, is a cat that lives constantly in a temperature of ten degrees above zero, winter and summer. Moreover she seems to like it, and on the rare occasions when she is removed to the outer air she mews and scratches at the door to get back again. Rats and mice also live and thrive in that temperature, which is the secret of the cat's presence there. "We put her in the compartment that registers 30 degrees originally," said the manager of the warehouse the other day. "We had been overrun with rodents, and we turned the cat loose as an experiment. She seemed to like it, and when we moved her to the colder temperature, it had no ill effect upon her. It would be interesting to know at just how low a temperature a cat could sustain life."

IMMENSE TREES IN FLORIDA.

Monarchs of the Forest That Have Stood for Centuries.

It is difficult even to guess at the age of the ancient live oaks, but some of them must number centuries and the oldest and greatest of them all is a monarch of the forest, with its outer branches sweeping the ground in a circle 120 feet across, with limbs as great as ordinary trunks of trees and bearing a garden of aerial ferns and air-plants upon their bark. This venerable tree is supposed to be the largest live oak in Florida. Enormous grape-vine trunks rise sinuously from the ground and lose themselves amid the quarter-acre of foliage that crowns this tree; the saplings that once gave them support have disappeared long years ago, their only record being the angles and curves of grape-vine stem to which they lent their transient aid in climbing skyward.—Country Life in America.

Birds Find Refuge on a Lightship.

The captain in charge of a lightship situated at the entrance to San Francisco harbor recently reported to the United States light house commissioner that a large number of land birds took refuge on board the vessel. A dense smoke from northern forest fires hung over the locality and completely obscured sea and land. Evidently the birds had lost their way, and, exhausted by their long flight, the wanderers lighted on the ship undeterred by the presence of the crew. At one time sixty of the feathered guests were counted on various parts of the ship. Owls, cranes, hummingbirds and other non-marine species were noticed during the time.

Claims to Have the Biggest Mills.

So far as statistics in regard to cotton manufacturing plants have been published, Manchester people have the satisfaction of knowing that the largest cotton mill building in the world is that recently built by the Manchester Print Works and covering with its two wings a remarkable area. Statistics, too, show that the big No. 11 mill of the Amoskeag Manufacturing company, on the west side of the river, is the largest mill exclusively devoted to cotton cloth manufacturing in the world. That is, no portion of the No. 11 mill is used for storehouse purposes; it is entirely devoted to the making of cloth.—Manchester (N. H.) Union.

That Bubonic Plague.

Some Mississippi negroes were discussing yellow fever days in Havana. Uncle Marcus, who was one of the group, rose to his feet, and with many gesticulations thus harangued the crowd: "Yo kin talk about de fever, ole Yellow Jack. When dat gits a hold on you-all it's mighty rough; but yo' kin most allers generally git cured. An' de smallpox am bad; it sho' gives yo' de misery in every particular ob yo' frame; but yo' kin git ober dat, 'cept its track. But dis yere new misery ketches yo' every time. Dere ain't no hope fo' ye, chillum, wen yo' git took by de bonny blue flag!"

Ill Omens from Chinese Mild Weather.

Indications are not wanting that there is to be a second crop of licees this year, the trees in the interior having again flowered, says the Hong Kong Daily Press. As a consequence many wild rumors are in circulation, and pestilence, rebellion and war are foretold. A parallel is pointed to in the case of the Taiping rebellion, which was preceded by a double crop of licees. Signs of the times point to a great rebellion in China, and complications between Russia, France, England and Japan are inevitable.

WITH THE SAGES.

We often do more good by our sympathy than by our labors.—Dean Farrar.

Stand up bravely to afflictions, and quit thyself like a man.—Thomas a Kempis.

Good manners are a part of good morals and kind courtesy.—Archbishop Whately.

The rule of self-obedience to the right will bring all things into order.—W. E. Gladstone.

Men show their character in nothing more clearly than by what they consider laughable.—Goethe.

How much lies in laughter, the cipher key wherewith we decipher the whole man.—Thomas Carlyle.

Have a heart that never hardens, a temper that never tires, and a touch that never hurts.—Charles Dickens.

When a man knows his work and will not do it, pity him more than one who is to hang to-morrow.—Dr. Geo. MacDonald.

No true and permanent fame can be founded except in labors, which promote the happiness of mankind.—Charles Sumner.

When water is broken into mist it drives no mill; and when clang and clatter sound through door and window, things go not well in the house.—Claudian.

Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate you are sure to wake up somebody.—Longfellow.

We sleep, but the loom of life never stops; and the pattern which was weaving when the sun went down is weaving when it comes up to-morrow.—W. H. Beecher.

A great lie is like a great fish on dry land; it may fret and fling, and make a frightful bother, but it cannot hurt you. You have only to keep still and it will die of itself.—Crabbe.

Since we are set here so fast in the midst of duty that we cannot escape if we would, we must find a way, even if we cannot find beauty in duty, to bring beauty out of it.—Henry Wilder Foote.

Those persons who cut themselves off from the world run the risk of losing that charity toward others which belongs to those who share in the common dangers of life.—Sir Walter Besant.

Whatever is in any way beautiful hath its source of beauty in itself, and is complete in itself; praise forms no part of it. So it is none the worse nor the better for being praised.—Marcus Aurelius.

SNOW THAT BRINGS NEWS.

A snow year, a rich year.

The more snow, the more healthy the season.

Burning wood in winter pops more before snow.

It takes three cloudy days to bring a heavy snow.

If the snowflakes increase in size, a thaw will follow.

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